

**U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
TRANSKENTUCKY FINAL POLLUTION REPORT**

**DATE:** May 13, 2004

**SUBJECT:** TransKentucky Transportation Oil Spill  
Main Rail Line  
Lewisburg, Mason County, Kentucky

**FROM:** Katrina Jones, OSC  
USEPA Region 4

**TO:** S. Hitchcock, EPA  
Don Rigger, EPA  
Region 4, RRC  
USCG  
KYDEP

**I. BACKGROUND**

|                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| FPN#             | E04414   |
| SITE ID#         | Z4GB   |
| PROJECT CEILING: | \$5,000  |
| LEAD AGENCY:     | EPA, Region 4, ERRB<br>61 Forsyth Street, SW<br>Atlanta, Georgia 30303 |
| NPL:             | No   |
| FUNDING:         | OPA  |
| LEAD OSC:        | Katrina Jones  |

**II SITUATION**

|                        |                             |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Date of Notification:  | 19 March 2004               |
| Date Action Started:   | 19 March 2004               |
| Pollutant:             | Diesel                      |
| Quantity Discharged:   | Approximately 3,200 gallons |
| Source Identification: | Locomotive saddle tanks     |
| Resource Affected:     | North Fork Licking Creek    |

**III ACTIONS TAKEN**

On March 19, 2004 EPA OSC Katrina Jones and Kentucky DEP responded to a train derailment by TransKentucky Transportation in Lewisburg, Mason County, Kentucky. As a result of the derailment of 13 cars of coal and 5 engines, an estimated 3,200 gallons of diesel were lost. A total of 5,500 gallons of diesel that did not spill was retrieved from the site for recycling. The engines derailed at the top of a mountainous area that lead down to the creek. Fuel drained to the leveled soil side of the track and also into the railroad ballast. The Kentucky Department immediately responded to the incident and constructed an underflow dam to prevent some of the fuel from continuing further down the creek. Some of the fuel that had spilled into the railroad ballast drained down into the embankment subsequently releasing it into the creek at a very slow rate. This could be seen as it percolated from the sediment bed. EPA hired PECCO Environmental to conduct the cleanup of the diesel from the soil and the creek. An assessment of the creek was conducted to determine how much damage may have been done. Boom and absorbent pads were placed in several areas to prevent the oil from getting into the creek. An oil skimmer was utilized to recover as much product as possible. Final estimates

water recovered from the creek was 8,448 gallons.

**IV                    FUTURE ACTIONS**

Kentucky DEP continued to oversee cleanup actions as the remaining diesel fuel continues to release from the embankment.

**V                    ESTIMATED COSTS**

|     |         |
|-----|---------|
| EPA | \$1,700 |
|-----|---------|